

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:JFC

APPROVED BY NEA - MR. ATHERTON

S/S -R.PERITO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 298239 TOSEC 320051

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, U.S., JO

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MEMORANDUM: YOUR MEETING WITH CROWN
PRINCE HASSAN, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 AT 12 NOON
FROM NEA - ATHERTON
BACKGROUND

1. CROWN PRINCE HASSAN AND HIS WIFE, PRINCESS SARVATH, ARE
PAYING AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO BRUSSELS DURING THE DEC 7-10
PERIOD. HE WILL BE MEETING WITH THE BELGIAN KING, THE
CROWN PRINCE, THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER.
HE ALSO WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE EEC
COMMISSION THE FUTURE OF JORDANIAN/EEC RELATIONS.

2. THE CROWN PRINCE REQUESTED THIS MEETING TO WISH YOU
WELL IN THE FUTURE AND TO SOLICIT YOUR VIEWS ABOUT THE
CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S APPROACH TO MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS.

3. YOU LAST SAW CROWN PRINCE HASSAN ON HIS VISIT TO
WASHINGTON IN DECEMBER 1975.

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS

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4. -- WHILE I AM NOT ABLE TO MAKE COMMITMENTS ON BEHALF

OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT, I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE INTERESTS

OF THE UNITED STATES IN JORDAN AND IN THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION WILL BE THE SAME UNDER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AS THEY HAVE BEEN UNDER PRESIDENT FORD. OUR EFFORTS, UNDERTAKEN IN COOPERATION WITH SUCH CLOSE ASSOCIATES AS JORDAN, TO SEARCH FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAVE ENJOYED BROAD AMERICAN SUPPORT. THE SEARCH FOR PEACE HAS NOT BEEN A PARTISAN ISSUE FOR OUR PEOPLE.

5. -- I HAVE ALREADY MET WITH PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER TO DISCUSS FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. IN MY TALKS WITH MY SUCCESSOR, MR. VANCE, AND WITH OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT, I INTEND TO DESCRIBE FULLY THE IMPORTANCE JORDAN HOLDS FOR US. I WILL MAKE CLEAR THAT OUR DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST SHOULD BE ASSIGNED HIGH PRIORITY ATTENTION IN THE PERIOD AHEAD.

6. -- IN THIS CONNECTION, I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN WHAT MAY EMERGE FROM THE VISIT PRESIDENT ASAD IS NOW MAKING TO AMMAN. IS IT LIKELY THAT SYRIA AND JORDAN WILL ENTER A CLOSER, FORMAL RELATIONSHIP AS A RESULT?

7. -- I RECALL WITH A GREAT DEAL OF PERSONAL SATISFACTION THE VISITS I HAVE PAID TO AMMAN AND THE OPPORTUNITIES I HAVE BEEN OFFERED IN THESE RECENT YEARS TO WORK WITH YOUR BROTHER AND YOU ON ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

8. (HASSAN HAS BEEN GREATLY INTERESTED IN A WEATHER MODIFICATION OR CLOUD-SEEDING PROPOSAL FORMULATED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA. THE NSC UNDERSECRETARIES' COMMITTEE DECIDED ON NOVEMBER 30 THAT WE COULD NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL, BOTH FOR SCIENTIFIC AND FOR POLITICAL REASONS.) IF THE ISSUE IS RAISED BY HASSAN:

--WE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE JORDANIAN PROPOSAL. WE CONCLUDED THAT DIFFICULTIES IN THE PRESENT STATE OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT IN THIS FIELD ALONG WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR ADVERSE REACTIONS FROM JORDAN'S NEIGHBORS, INCLUDING SYRIA, IRAQ AND SAUDI ARABIA, AS WELL AS ISRAEL, CONFIDENTIAL

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MAKE IT UNDESIRABLE FOR US TO PROVIDE SUPPORT AT THIS TIME. WE WILL BE RECOMMENDING THAT JORDAN MIGHT PURSUE FUTURE EXPERIMENTAL AND POSSIBLY OPERATIONAL PROGRAMS THROUGH THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION. THIS WOULD PLACE THE MATTER UNDER AN INTERNATIONAL UMBRELLA WHILE ASSURING JORDAN THAT HIGH SCIENTIFIC STANDARDS ARE MAINTAINED.

9. DRAFTED BY: NEA/ARN - M. DRAPER. APPROVED BY: NEA-
MR. ATHERTON. CLEARANCES: S/S - R.PERITO, ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE298239
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MDRAPER:JFC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760452-1479
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761261/aaaacavt.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING MEMORANDUM: YOUR MEETING WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 AT 12 NOON FROM NEA -
ATHERTON
TAGS: PFOR, US, JO, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (HASSAN, CROWN PRINCE)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006